



News Release

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Clark County nurse practitioner faces charges

OLYMPIA — Improper prescribing charges have been issued against the licenses of a Clark County advanced registered nurse practitioner and registered nurse. Kelly M. Bell (AP30005937, RN00075082) is charged with allegedly treating multiple chronic pain patients with extremely high doses of opioids.

The Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission and the Department of Health took action after receiving multiple complaints by area pharmacists and clients.

Charging papers say Bell provided patient care below the standard. Her prescribing actions put patients at risk of serious physical harm or death.

Bell has 20 days to respond to the charges and request a hearing. Her advanced registered nurse practitioner and registered nurse licenses are unrestricted during this process; however, she surrendered her credential to prescribe controlled substances to the Drug Enforcement Administration and can no longer prescribe them.

The statement of charges is on “Provider Credential Search” on the [agency’s home page](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov). It’s also available by calling 360-236-4700. Anyone who believes a health care provider acted unprofessionally is encouraged to call that number to report their complaint.

The Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission protects and promotes public health and safety in Washington by regulating nurses. Rules, policies, and procedures developed by the commission promote the delivery of quality health care to state residents.

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